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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP

C.I.G. DIRECTIVE NO.

CENTRAL INDEX OF PHOTO-INTELLIGENCE MATERIALS

Memorandum by the Director of Central Intelligence

1. During the war the Armed Forces and various Federal intelligence agencies obtained valuable information about the enemy from photographs. Due to the fact that the sources and nature of this information had not been previously catalogued, the search for it was without direction or coordination and resulted in waste of time and manpower by the research analysts of the various Federal foreign intelligence agencies. ✓

2. By memorandum dated 17 April 1946, Mr. Alfred McCormack, then Special Assistant to the Secretary of State for Research and Intelligence, suggested that the Director of Central Intelligence initiate a survey to recommend procedures for the coordination of the collection, processing, filing and servicing of photo-intelligence materials. A study submitted by a representative of the Army Map Service recommends that a central index of the foreign photographic intelligence in the United States from all sources *available* be established.

3. An informal survey by the Support Branch, Central Planning Staff, confirms the desirability of establishing a central index system of intelligence photographs. As this falls within the mission of the Central Intelligence Group for planning the coordination of the collection of foreign intelligence related to the national security, a survey of the subject will be made. ?

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4. The Central Planning Staff will conduct a survey of this problem to include consideration of the following:

- a. Types of foreign photographic intelligence now regularly collected by Federal agencies from all sources.
- b. Adequacy of the coverage for purposes of intelligence research.
- c. Practicability of establishing, either centrally or in the respective Government departments a control index showing the photographic information available in each agency.
- d. Extent of duplication between Government agencies in collecting photographs from foreign intelligence sources and means for eliminating such duplication.
- e. Present availability of each agency's collection of photo-intelligence to other agencies concerned.
- f. Practicability of establishing standard procedures for the coordination, processing, filing and servicing of photo-intelligence materials.
- g. Practicability of establishing a photo-technical laboratory to improve and maintain quality of photo-intelligence materials.
- h. Suitability of retaining each agency's collection of photographs concerned with foreign intelligence in that agency or their consolidation into a central agency file.

5. The Central Planning Staff, C.I.G., in conducting the survey will be authorized to call for personnel indicated in paragraph 6 below, to appear and give such oral or written reports as may be required for purposes of this survey. The success of such a survey depends on the nomination of a group of experts from the photo-intelligence field able to suggest a plan by which the three Departments may concentrate their policy and action for the general benefit of all.

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6. Each of the following will designate a representative to arrange details with the Support Branch, Central Planning Staff, C.I.G., and to furnish that branch a list of personnel authorized to give information for purposes of the survey:

- a. Director of Intelligence, War Department General Staff
- b. Assistant Chief of Air Staff, A-2
- c. Chief of Naval Intelligence
- d. Special Assistant to the Secretary of State for Research and Intelligence
- e. Chief Signal Officer *?*
- f. Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation *3 Acc*

7. The Central Planning Staff will submit its findings, conclusions, and recommendations to the Director of Central Intelligence. *who* will *take action* then ~~submit appropriate recommendations to the National Intelligence Authority, after concurrence or comment by the Intelligence Advisory Board.~~

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